

30722  
EB

SERVICE DATE - DECEMBER 29, 1999

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Sec. 5a Application No. 118 (Sub-No. 2), et al.<sup>1</sup>

EC-MAC MOTOR CARRIERS SERVICE ASSOCIATION, INC., ET AL.

Decided: December 27, 1999

In our decision issued in this proceeding on December 18, 1998 (the 1998 Decision), we announced our intention to approve renewal of current motor carrier rate bureau agreements only if “benchmark” rates were reduced to competitive levels. We stated, however, that we would not initiate the necessary followup proceedings until the end of 1999, in order to give Congress the opportunity to address the issues that had been raised. Instead, we indicated that we would temporarily approve, until the end of 1999, applications for renewal.

The motor carrier rate bureaus identified in this decision (decision title and footnote 1) submitted applications for renewal. In addition, some bureaus filed a petition for reconsideration of the 1998 Decision, to which various shipper groups replied in opposition. Finally, Congress recently passed legislation (the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999, H. R. No. 3419) that bears on these proceedings.

We intend to issue a decision, no later than February 15, 1999, addressing the issues that have been raised in these proceedings. In the meantime, we will temporarily extend our approval of the agreements of the bureaus that submitted applications for renewal.

---

<sup>1</sup> The decision issued here applies to the following other motor carrier rate bureau renewal applications: Household Goods Carriers Bureau Committee - Agreement, Section 5a Application No. 1 (Sub-No. 10); Pacific Inland Tariff Bureau, Inc. - Renewal of Agreement, Section 5a Application No. 22 (Sub-No. 8); Application of the National Motor Bus Traffic Association, Inc., for Extended Approval of its Conformed Agreement, Section 5a Application No. 9 (Amendment No. 8); The New England Motor Rate Bureau, Inc., Section 5a Application No. 25 (Sub-No. 9); Middlewest Motor Freight Bureau, Inc. - Renewal of Agreement, Section 5a Application No. 34 (Sub-No. 10); Niagara Frontier Tariff Bureau, Inc., Section 5a Application No. 45 (Sub-No. 16); Southern Motor Carriers Rate Conference, Inc., Section 5a Application No. 46 (Sub-No. 21); Carriers Traffic Association - Agreement, Section 5a Application No. 55 (Amendment No. 2); Machinery Haulers Association Inc. - Agreement, Section 5a Application No. 58 (Sub-No. 4); Rocky Mountain Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., Section 5a Application No. 60 (Sub-No. 11); Nationwide Bulk Trucking Association, Inc. - Agreement, Section 5a Application No. 63 (Sub-No. 4); Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc - Agreement, Section 5a Application No. 70 (Sub-No. 12); and Willamette Tariff Bureau, Inc. — Renewal of Agreement, STB Section 5a Agreement No. 116 (Sub-No. 1).

Section 5a Application No. 118 (Sub-No. 2), et al.

It is ordered:

1. We temporarily extend our approval of the agreements of the bureaus identified in this decision.
2. This decision is effective on December 29, 1999.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan, Vice Chairman Clyburn and Commissioner Burkes.

Vernon A. Williams  
Secretary